

JUL 17 2001

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

2001 JUL 17 P 3:07

In the Matter of)
Sam Brownback for US Senate and) MURs 4568, 4633, 4634 and 4736
Alan Groesbeck, as treasurer)

SENSITIVE

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

I. ACTIONS RECOMMENDED: Close the file as to Sam Brownback for US Senate
and Alan Groesbeck, as treasurer ("the Committee"), and approve the appropriate letter.

II. DISCUSSION:

On May 17, 2001, the Federal Election Commission found probable cause to believe that
John and Ruth Stauffer ("the Stauffers") violated 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(1) by making excessive
contributions to the Sam Brownback for US Senate Committee.

On that same
day, the Commission found probable cause to believe that the Committee violated 2 U.S.C.
§ 441a(f), but took no further action. The Respondents were notified of the Commission's
actions on May 21, 2001.

On July 5, 2001, the Committee notified this Office that it was disgorging \$19,000 in
excessive contributions made by John and Ruth Stauffer to the U.S. Treasury. Attachment 1. A
check in that amount, made out to the U.S. Treasury, was enclosed with this correspondence.
Pursuant to the conciliation agreement, Mr. and Mrs. Stauffer had requested that the Committee
refund \$19,000 in contributions the couple made during the 1996 election cycle. This written

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request also informed the Committee that the Stauffers waived any and all claims to the refund and directed that the money be disgorged to the U.S. Treasury. See Attachment 1 (Letter dated July 3, 2001).

As the Respondents have now disgorged the \$19,000 in excessive contributions made by the Stauffers to the Committee, this Office recommends that file be closed as to Sam Brownback for US Senate and Alan Groesbeck, as treasurer.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Close the file as to Sam Brownback for US Senate and Alan Groesbeck, as treasurer.
2. Approve the appropriate letter.

July 14, 2001
Date


Lois G. Lerner
Acting General Counsel

Attachment:

1. Letters, dated July 3, 2001 and July 5, 2001

Staff assigned: Marianne Abely

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